Office of Child Support (OCS)

OCS improves the economic well-being of children by establishing, collecting, enforcing, and modifying child support orders for children living in divided homes. OCS also establishes and enforces medical insurance provisions in court orders, helping to ensure children receive the private health insurance coverage to which they are entitled.

Programs/Services include:

- Establishing, modifying, or enforcing child support orders
- Establishing and enforcing medical support orders
- Collecting, processing, and distributing child support payments to custodial parents
- Helping to enforce or change another state's support order
- Locating parents
- Establishing parentage if the parents were not married when their children were born

Office of Disability Determination Services (DDS)

DDS serves Vermonters who apply for disability benefits under the following programs:

- Social Security Disability Insurance
- Supplemental Security Income
- Medicaid

Its mission is to provide applicants with accurate determinations of medical eligibility and decisions as quickly as possible—as governed by Social Security statutes, regulations, and policy; with full and fair consideration of each applicant's situation; and with respect and concern for the individual's well-being and legal rights.

Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO)

OEO works in partnership with the private sector, community-based organizations, and others to increase the self-sufficiency of Vermonters, strengthen Vermont communities, and eliminate the causes and symptoms of poverty.

Programs include:

- Asset Development;
- Community Services;
- Homeless Services; and
- Weatherization Services.

Department for Children and Families

Child Development Division

103 South Main Street, A Bldg. Waterbury, VT 05671-5500 1-800-649-2642 or (802) 241-3110

Disability Determination Services

93 Pilgrim Park Road, Suite 6 Waterbury, VT 05676 1-800-734-2463 or (802) 241-2463

Economic Services Division

103 South Main Street, A Bldg. Waterbury, VT 05671-1201 1-800-287-0589 or (802) 241-2800

Family Services Division

103 South Main Street, Osgood 3 Waterbury, VT 05671-2401 (802) 241-2131

Office of Child Support

103 South Main Street, A Bldg. Waterbury, VT 05671-1901 1-800-786-3214 or (802) 241-2319

Office of Economic Opportunity

103 South Main Street, Osgood 2 Waterbury, VT 05671-1801 (802) 241-2450

dcf.vermont.gov



Vermont Department for Children and Families

Fostering the safety, well-being, healthy development, and self-sufficiency of Vermonters



Our Mission

The Department for Children and Families fosters the healthy development, safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency of Vermonters.

We are passionate about prevention and will:

- Reduce poverty and homelessness;
- Improve the safety and well-being of children and families;
- Create permanent connections for children and youth; and
- Provide timely and accurate financial supports for children, individuals, and families.

Our Vision

Vermont is a place where people prosper; children and families are safe and have strong, loving connections; and individuals have the opportunity to fully develop their potential.

Our Commitments

- To be exceptional collaborators with schools, community partners, businesses, service providers, the justice system, and most of all, those we serve.
- To be open, responsive, and fair in our decision-making.
- To develop highly trained and motivated staff.
- To embrace the four key practices of the Agency of Human Services

Child Development Division (CDD)

CDD improves the well-being of Vermont children by ensuring access to high quality, economically viable child development services. Working in partnership with a network of community-based providers, CDD ensures that a continuum of early childhood and afterschool services are available throughout Vermont.

Direct services for children and families include regulated early childhood and afterschool programs, early intervention services for at-risk children, resource and referral for families, parent education, and family support services. CDD also provides technical assistance and professional development opportunities to Vermont's early childhood and afterschool workforce.

Programs include:

- Child Care Licensing
- Child Care Subsidy Program
- Early Childhood Integrated Services
- Early Childhood and Afterschool Systems of Care (e.g., Parent Child Centers and Success by Six)
- Workforce Development and Quality
 Enhancement (e.g., the Step Ahead
 Recognition System or STARS Program).

Economic Services Division (ESD)

ESD administers programs such as assistance-to-work services, health care coverage, cash assistance, and food support that help individuals and families to meet their basic needs. These and other programs provide a safety net for individuals and families who may be experiencing unemployment, part-time or low-wage employment, family breakup, single parenthood, aging, temporary or permanent disability, the death of a family member, or other life-changing events.

Programs include:

- Essential Person
- Food & Nutrition Support
- General and Emergency Assistance
- Home Heating Fuel Assistance
- Lifeline/Link Up Telephone Assistance
- Health Care Insurance
- Reach Up Program

More than one in five Vermonters will receive benefits or services from these programs.

Family Services Division (FSD)

FSD partners with families and communities to protect children and strengthen families. Every year, FSD works with approximately 3,000 of Vermont's most vulnerable children and families; about 1,400 are children in DCF custody. These families are struggling, and they need help to keep their children safe.

FSD's work is guided by the following core practice principles: 1) Children are safe from abuse; 2) Children have enduring relationships with healthy, nurturing families; 3) Children are successful in family, school and community; 4) Youth are free from criminal behavior; and 5) Staff are supported, valued, and receive ongoing training.

Programs/Services include:

- Adoption Subsidy and Post-Adoption
 Supports for Adoptees with Special Needs
- Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations
- Ongoing Services to Families at Risk
- Probation and Other Restorative Justice Services for Delinquent Youth
- Substitute Care, Treatment, and Permanency Planning Services for Children in State Custody
- Transition Services for Youth